



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

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October 31, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. T. Fujioka", is written over the printed name and title.

COUNTY FACILITY FILMING FEES - STATUS REPORT

On October 9, 2012, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, the Board instructed the Chief Executive Office to 1) report back on film fees charged at County facilities, including those that are run by nonprofit foundations, and 2) make recommendations to ensure that reasonable fees are being charged to film at Los Angeles County facilities. This memorandum provides a status report of the efforts to date.

On October 18, 2012, my Office met with representatives from the Music Center, film industry (Warner Brothers, Teamster Local 399, CBS TV, and Motion Picture Association of America), FilmL.A., California Film Commission, and deputies from each Board Office to discuss the filming fee structure at the newly-opened Grand Park. Alternative rate structures were discussed, as well as other film-friendly options. The Music Center indicated that they plan to present a revised filming fee structure to the meeting participants soon.

During the meeting, we also briefly discussed the Board's October 9th Order referenced above. It was confirmed that the final report regarding filming fees will focus on facility use fees, as opposed to cost recovery fees for County reviews, permitting and services. The industry representatives also stressed that they were not concerned with the standard \$400 County facility use fee in place for most County buildings and locations, but rather the larger fees associated with various unique locations, often set by non-profit foundations.

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A survey of filming fees charged at County facilities, including those that are run by nonprofit foundations, was subsequently sent out to various County departments. Departments were requested to respond by November 7, 2012, providing such information as facility name; managing organization (County or nonprofit); facility use fee schedule for filming and still photography; rationale for fee establishment; any fee comparisons performed; variation of fees, limitations and any filming issues or conflicts; fee establishment authority; and how collected fees are used. The departments were also asked to submit any recommendations they have, to ensure that reasonable fees are being charged to County facilities while balancing the primary goal of public use and enjoyment.

Once the requested information from departments is received, we will work with departments to develop potential recommendations for revised fees, if any, and then work with each Board Office and the film industry to finalize recommendations prior to issuing the final report. We are targeting the final report to be submitted to the Board in early December 2012.

Concurrently, the County's Local Governmental Services Committee met on October 9, 2012 and recommended that the Board consider a one-year pilot program to waive filming fees where possible, to encourage retention of filming activities, as well as create employment opportunities in Los Angeles County.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or your staff may contact Martin Zimmerman at (213) 974-1326, or mzimmerman@ceo.lacounty.gov.

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FC:ib

c: Sheriff
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